

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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P R O C E E D I N G S

BOARD MEETING

Friday, December 19, 1975

10:00 o'clock a.m.

DOYLE G. BERRY,
Chairman

Wild Life and Fisheries
Building
400 Royal Street, Room 102
New Orleans, Louisiana

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,
Reporter.



Helen R. Dietrich, inc.
Stenotypists

333 ST. CHARLES AVENUE, SUITE 1221
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70130 • (504) 524-4787

P R O C E E D I N G S

. . . The monthly Board Meeting of Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission was held on Friday, December 19, 1975, commencing at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at the Wild Life and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, Doyle G. Berry, Chairman, presiding. . . .

PRESENT WERE:

DOYLE G. BERRY, Chairman
 JERRY G. JONES, Member
 JEAN LAPEYRE, Member
 DONALD F. WILLE, Member
 J. BURTON ANGELLE, Director.

A G E N D A

DR. LYLE ST. AMANT

1. Request from CAJUN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE, (5)
 INC. for permit to remove 1,250,000
 cubic yards of fill material from the
 Mississippi River near New Roads, Pointe
 Coupee Parish, Louisiana.
2. Request from ATLAS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. (6)
 for permit to remove approximately



- 300,000 cubic yards of fill sand from the Mississippi River at Mile 148.5 AHP Left Descending Bank, near Lutter, at Paulina, St. James Parish, Louisiana.
3. Request from ATLAS CONSTRUCTION CO., INC., (8)
for renewal of permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River in the vicinity of CS 1941+00 to CS 1840+00 in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.
4. Request from ATLAS CONSTRUCTION CO., INC., for (9)
renewal of permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, Left Descending Bank, between Mile 134.3 and 136.0 AHP, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana.
5. Request from T. L. JAMES & COMPANY, INC., for (10)
renewal of permit to remove fill material from the Profit Island Chute on the Mississippi River in East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana.
6. Request from OKC CORP. LOUISIANA CEMENT (12)
DIVISION for renewal of permit to remove fill material from St. Malo Channel.



7. Ratification of option to RADCLIFF MATERIALS, (13)
INC. for extension of Three Parish Lease
Agreement.

8. Transfer of OKC Dredging, Inc. lease to (16)
Pontchartrain Dredging Corporation and
Pontchartrain Materials Corporation.

MR. HARRY SCHAFER

9. Setting a closing date and a size limit for (30)
oysters taken after January 1, 1976.

MR. JOE HERRING

10. Approval of lease between Avoyelles Parish (22)
School Board and Louisiana Wild Life
and Fisheries Commission.

11. Lease renewal on Cities Service Wildlife (24)
Management Area.

12. Approval of bids for repair of Spring Bayou (26)
Headquarters Building.

OTHER BUSINESS

13. Ratify approval of Rules and Regulations for (29)
Commercial Fisherman Sales and Use Tax
Exemption.

Recognition of Chairman as Mardi Gras King. (32)

Approval of Budget Request. (34)



Postponement of hearing on policy change, (42)
oyster industry.

Introduction of Miss Millie Barr. (43)

Adjournment. (44)



CHAIRMAN BERRY: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. I will ask the Secretary to call the roll, please.

(Whereupon, the Director called the roll, and attendance as shown on Page 2 hereof was noted.)

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Four members and a quorum, present. Proceed, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Dr. St. Amant.

DR. LYLE ST. AMANT: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, we have a number of items this morning. Most of them are generally routine.

The first one is a request from the Cajun Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., for permit to remove 1.25 million cubic yards of fill material from the Mississippi River near New Roads. This is for the establishment of a new power plant. We have examined this permit request. We find it meets the requirements of the Commission and I recommend that we adopt it.

MR. DONALD F. WILLE: I so move.

MR. JEAN LAPEYRE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille,



seconded by Mr. Lapeyre. Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries
Commission does hereby grant permission
to CAJUN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE,
INC., to dredge for approximately
1,250,000 cubic yards of fill material
from the Mississippi River near New
Roads, Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana,
for a period of one year from December
18, 1975 to December 18, 1976 at a
royalty rate of five cents per cubic
yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: The second item is a
request from Atlas Construction Company, Inc. for
permit to remove approximately 300,000 cubic yards
of fill material from the Mississippi River at
Mile 148.5 AHP, left descending bank, near Lutchet.



We have examined this permit and it meets the requirements set forth by the Commission. I would recommend that we grant this permit, subject to our usual terms of one year and five cents per cubic yard.

MR. JERRY JONES: I so move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Wille. Any objection?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to ATLAS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC., to dredge for approximately 300,000 cubic yards of fill sand from the Mississippi River at Mile 148.5 AHP, Left Descending Bank, near Lutchter, at Paulina, St. James Parish, Louisiana, for a period



of one year from December 18, 1975 to December 18, 1976, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: The third item is a request, another request, by Atlas Construction Company, Inc. for renewal of a permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River in the vicinity of River Station 1941 and 1840 in Plaquemines Parish. They have been operating this permit without any problems, and they have met all the requirements set forth by the Commission. I would recommend we renew the permit.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.

MR. LAPEYRE: I so move.

MR. JONES: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Lapeyre, seconded by Mr. Jones. Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)



BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to ATLAS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC., to remove fill material from the Mississippi River in the vicinity of CS 1941+00 to CS 1840+00 in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from December 18, 1975 to December 18, 1976, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: The fourth item is another request by Atlas Construction Company for renewal of an existing permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, Left Descending Bank, at Mile 134.3 and 136.0, St. John Parish. The permit has been operating satisfactorily and has met all the requirements of the Commission. I recommend that we renew it at the usual terms.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation.

MR. JONES: So move.

MR. WILLE: Second.



THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Jones,
seconded by Mr. Wille. Any objections?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries
Commission does hereby grant permission
to ATLAS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC., to
remove fill material from the Mississippi
River, Left Descending Bank, between
Mile 134-3 and Mile 136.0 AHP, St. John
the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, for a
period of one year from December 18,
1975 to December 18, 1976, at a royalty
rate of five cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: The fifth one is a
request by T. L. James and Company for renewal of
a permit to remove fill material from the Profit
Island Chute on the Mississippi River in East Baton
Rouge Parish. This permit has been in effect for



a year and it has operated satisfactorily. I would recommend that it be renewed.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.

MR. LAPEYRE: I so move.

MR. JONES: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Lapeyre, seconded by Mr. Jones. Any opposition? Objections?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to T. L. JAMES & COMPANY, INC. to remove fill material from the Profit Island Chute on the Mississippi River in East Baton Rouge Parish, for a period of one year from December 18, 1975 to December 18, 1976, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.



DR. ST. AMANT: The sixth item is a request from the OKC Corporation, Louisiana Cement Division, for renewal of a permit to remove fill material from St. Malo Channel. This permit has been in effect for a number of years and has met all the requirements of the Commission. I would recommend that we renew it.

MR. JONES: So move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Wille. Any objections?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to LOUISIANA CEMENT DIVISION, OKC CORPORATION, for removal of fill material from St. Malo Channel for a period of one year from January 28, 1976 to



January 28, 1977, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: Item 7 is ratification of an option by Radcliff Materials, Inc. for their three-parish lease agreement. This lease agreement has been in effect for a number of years. It has an option for an additional five years, after which time the lease will terminate permanently and will have to be either renegotiated or bid for a new lease.

We have examined this, our legal staff has examined it, and it meets the requirements of the Commission and of the lease itself. We recommend that this option be ratified and that the new royalty be increased to 20 cents per yard for the next five years or unless there is some change by the Commission or the legislature.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.

MR. JONES: I so move.

MR. LAPEYRE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Lapeyre. Any objection?



MR. JONES: Dr. St. Amant, there would be nothing in the exercise of the option which would prohibit us or prohibit the legislature from raising the royalty at a future date?

DR. ST. AMANT: No, sir. We have a prepared resolution which I have furnished the secretary, which will be incorporated in the minutes. This resolution states clearly that for the period it shall be twenty cents unless this Commission or the legislature decides to change the price.

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing no objection, so ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, Southern Oyster Shell Milling Corporation was granted the right to a five-year option by action of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission on April 23, 1968, to their shell lease in St. Mary, Iberia and Terrebonne Parishes, commonly known as the Three-Parish Lease; and



WHEREAS, Southern Oyster Shell Milling Corporation further assigned the Three-Parish Lease to Radcliff Materials, Inc; and

WHEREAS, this agreement has been found to be legally correct and binding,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant a five-year option to the lease for dredging in this area; and at the termination of this option, the lease agreement shall be finally terminated with no additional option; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during this five-year period, the royalty on all dredged shells shall be in the amount of twenty cents (20¢) per cubic yard with provision for change by action of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and/or the Louisiana State Legislature.



DR. ST. AMANT: The last item is a change of ownership of shell dredging operations in Lake Pontchartrain. We have furnished you the information last month concerning this matter. It involves a transfer of interest for shell dredging in Lake Pontchartrain from OKC Dredging, Inc., which was formerly known as Jahncke Services, to Pontchartrain Materials.

We have examined this transfer. It meets all the legal requirements set forth under the four-party lease. We have been furnished with all of the necessary documents and we can find no reason to object to this transfer, nor have we had any objections from the other parties concerned.

We do have a long resolution which covers this matter which has been furnished the secretary. I would recommend that we ratify this action, but before we take this action, I understand that Mr. Lennox, who represents one of the parties under the four-party lease, would like to make a statement.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Lennox.

MR. EDWARD LENNOX: Thank you. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, this type of



action as relates to this particular lease has come before the Commission from time to time over the past ten years. As a matter of fact, my own company acquired the right, title and interest of Leftwich Company some several years ago.

When this matter first came to my attention, representing the interest of Radcliff, I have had a continuous dialogue with all of the parties, the remaining three parties to the so-called exclusive lease, the so-called venturees or venturers, as well as their attorneys. Throughout this dialogue there has been a continuing understanding and agreement that this agreement in no way or nowise alters the lease as it now stands. It is a four-party exclusive lease. There will never be more than four parties to the lease as a result of the action you are considering this morning, and with that understanding we acquiesce in this application and urge your adoption and approval.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Lennox. Does anybody else care to comment?

Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.



MR. WILLE: I move.

MR. JONES: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille,
seconded by Mr. Jones. Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, on May 28, 1959, the
Commission entered into a written agree-
ment (hereinafter referred to as the
"Agreement") with Ayers Materials
Company, Inc., Leftwich Company, Inc.,
Jahncke Service, Inc. and Louisiana
Materials Company, Inc. (hereinafter
collectively referred to as "Purchasers")
for the exclusive rights and privileges
of taking shells and shell deposits of
all varieties and removing same from
the beds of Lakes Pontchartrain and
Maurepas in the State of Louisiana for
a period of ten (10) years commencing



May 28, 1959, with an option to renew the Agreement for a period of five (5) years to May 28, 1974;

WHEREAS, said Agreement was subsequently extended periodically by the Commission so that the present expiration date is May 28, 1984;

WHEREAS, Leftwich Company, Inc.'s interest has been assigned to Radcliff Materials, Inc.;

WHEREAS, Jahncke Service, Inc. has changed its name to OKC Dredging, Inc.;

WHEREAS, OKC Dredging, Inc. desires to sell, transfer, and convey all of its rights, title and interest in and to the Agreement to Pontchartrain Materials, a Louisiana joint venture;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Joint Venture Agreement of Pontchartrain Materials upon dissolution of said Joint Venture all of the Joint Venture's right, title and interest in and to the



Agreement shall be assigned to Pontchartrain Materials Corporation or OKC Corp., in accordance with the terms of the Joint Venture Agreement;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Paragraph 21 of the Agreement the approval of the Commission is required to effect any transfer of any Purchaser's interest in and to the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, no legal objection to said transfers has been made and in the opinion of Counsel to the Commission said transfers may legally be made;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission hereby approves the sale, transfer and conveyance of all rights, title and interest in and to the Agreement, of OKC Dredging, Inc. to Pontchartrain Materials, a Louisiana Joint Venture, pursuant to the "Assignment of Contract" attached hereto and marked for identification as Exhibit "A";

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that



the Commission hereby approves the future transfer of all rights, title and interest of Pontchartrain Materials, a Louisiana Joint Venture in and to the Agreement to Pontchartrain Materials Corporation or to OKC Corp., as the case may be, upon dissolution of said Joint Venture;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Doyle G. Berry, Chairman of the Commission, be and is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to execute on behalf of the Commission the Assignment of Contract, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A", approving the transfer from OKC Dredging, Inc. to Pontchartrain Materials, a Louisiana Joint Venture, and the transfer from Pontchartrain Materials, a Louisiana Joint Venture, to Pontchartrain Materials Corporation or OKC Corp. upon liquidation of said Joint Venture. The Legal Counsel to the Commission is hereby empowered to



approve any technical changes the parties may hereafter make to the Assignment of Contract or any other instrument prior to execution by the Chairman of the Assignment of Contract.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dr. St. Amant.

DR. ST. AMANT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Herring, we will take you next, sir.

MR. JOE HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The first item we have, Mr. Marc Dupuy had met with the Avoyelles Parish School Board pertaining to Section 16 land joining our Pomme de Terre Wildlife Management Area some time back, and brought this to the Commission at another meeting.

I recommend to the Commission at this time that we do accept this lease from the Avoyelles Parish School Board pertaining to Section 16.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.

MR. JONES: I so move.

MR. WILLE: Second.



THE CHAIRMAN: The motion has been offered by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Wille. Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, in May of 1975, Mr. Marc Dupuy, a member of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, and other Commission personnel met with the Avoyelles Parish School Board pertaining to leasing of Section 16 property joining the Pomme de Terre Wildlife Management Area; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dupuy discussed this with the Commission on May 23, 1975 at the regular meeting of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that we accept the School Board Section 16 as part of the Pomme de Terre Wildlife Management Area,



NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fish-
eries Commission accept under lease
agreement from the Avoyelles Parish
School Board Section 16 as an addition
to the Pomme de Terre Wildlife Manage-
ment Area for use as a public hunting
and fishing facility.

MR. HERRING: We have also received a
lease renewal from Cities Service, pertaining to
the 13,200 acres of land we have leased from them
now, and I would recommend that we accept this,
too, again for a five-year period for wildlife
management area purposes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard
the recommendation.

MR. LAPEYRE: So move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Lapeyre and
seconded by Mr. Wille. Any objections?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Joe, are they still
maintaining that 30-day cancellation?

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir. That is in all



of our leases, really. Either party can cancel on 30 days' notice, Mr. Angelle.

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing no objection, so ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has received renewal lease agreement forms from Cities Service pertaining to the 13,200 acres of land that we presently have leased from them for wildlife management area purposes free of charge, and

WHEREAS, these renewal leases are for a period of five years, and

WHEREAS, Cities Service has done an outstanding job for the sportsmen of our state in making this land available for hunting purposes,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries



Commission accepts this 13,200 acres of land under lease for wildlife management area purposes free of charge, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a special letter of accommodation be sent to the officials of Cities Service pertaining to their cooperation and consideration of the sportsmen of our state.

MR. HERRING: Next, the State Division of Administration has received bids for repairs on the Spring Bayou headquarters, and the low bid was from E. E. Rabalis of Bunkie, Louisiana, in the amount of \$82,240.

I would recommend that we accept this. The other bids were \$91,472 from Island Construction Company and Edgar M. Williams in the amount of \$106,500. I would recommend to the Commission that for these repairs we do accept the low bid from E. E. Rabalis of Bunkie, Louisiana.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Herring, do you know anything about the reputation of the contractor with the low bid?

MR. HERRING: No, sir.. Mr. Ed Land's



office has advised us that they have done good work for the state in the past and that they have done work for State Parks and Recreation, which they have just completed, and they said that they are good contractors and they would advise us to go ahead and take them. As far as any dealings we have had with them, no, but from Mr. Ed Land's office, they would recommend that we accept them.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.

MR. JONES: So move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Wille. Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, bids have been received by the State Division of Administration for repairs on the Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area Headquarters facilities



for damages done in the spring of 1975,
and

WHEREAS, three bids were
received, as follows: (1) E. E.
Rabalis, Inc., Bunkie, Louisiana,
\$82,240; (2) Island Construction
Company, Inc., Sicily Island, Louis-
iana, \$91,472; and (3) Edgar M.
Williams, Alexandria, Louisiana,
\$105,500; and

WHEREAS, architect fees,
insurance and recording of contract
will bring the total cost to \$90,450,
and

WHEREAS, insurance on these
buildings will pay \$84,539.70, and

WHEREAS, we are now meeting
with the Federal Disaster people and
seeing if they will pay the remaining
\$5,910.30 for completion of these
repairs,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries



Commission through its Director notify Mr. Ed Land, Assistant Director, Facility, Planning and Control Department of the State Division of Administration, that this matter was approved on this date.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you want to handle this next item?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Mr. Chairman, at the last meeting we approved rules and regulations dealing with the Commercial Fisherman Sales and Use Tax Exemption; to comply with the Administrative Procedures Act of the Louisiana Legislature we need to ratify our action at the last meeting, and I so recommend that this be done at this time.

MR. JONES: I move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Wille. Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Schafer.



MR. SCHAFER: Mr. Chairman, Act 616, passed in the 1974 legislature gave the authority to the Commission to set the rules and regulations for the oyster industry after January 1. We have received a resolution from the Oyster Dealers and Growers Association, recommending that the size be removed after January 1 and that the closing date be April 15, 1976.

We have checked with our oyster field biologists and they would go along with this, and so I would recommend that with the exception of Calcasieu Lake, which is a special season, and the three-inch limit would remain there and it would close on March 31, 1976.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.

MR. JONES: I so move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Wille. Is there any discussion? Mr. Buquet, do you wish to be heard at this time? Anybody else? Any objections?

(No response)



Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, Act 616, sponsored by
the Louisiana Oyster Dealers and Growers
Association, adopted during the regular
session of the 1974 State Legislature,
authorized the Louisiana Wild Life and
Fisheries Commission to regulate the
size limit and area closures after
January 1 of each year on state-controlled
oyster seed grounds, and only after afford-
ing all interested parties an opportunity
to be heard, and

WHEREAS, a resolution from the
Louisiana Oyster Dealers and Growers
Association was submitted, requesting
the removal of the size limit for
economic reasons, but requesting a
closing date of April 15, 1976,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries



Commission does hereby approve the removal of the three-inch size limit on all state controlled oyster seed grounds and natural reefs, with the exception of Calcasieu Lake, after December 31, 1975, and imposes a closing date of one-half hour before sunset on April 15, 1976;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Calcasieu Lake will continue to have a three-inch size limit for oyster harvesting and that the season will close on March 31, 1976.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Buquet, you didn't want to be heard this morning? We are glad to have you with us.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Shall we give him a second chance?

MR. A. J. BUQUET: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for recognizing me. If you will permit me to address the audience, Mr. Chairman --

THE CHAIRMAN: Go right ahead.

MR. BUQUET: I would like all the people



who are directly interested in the oyster and the fisheries industry to please stand.

(Audience stands.)

Now, for your benefit, ladies and gentlemen, in the event that you are unaware of the fact that the State of Louisiana is going to be honored in a tremendous manner this year in Washington, D. C., by having our Chairman as the King of the Mardi Gras Ball, and I wanted our industry to assist me and say, "Hail to the King!"

(Applause)

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Buquet.

MR. WILLE: Mr. Buquet, I would just like to say this, that I don't mind him being King of the Mardi Gras Ball, but us having to address him from now for the rest of the year as Your Majesty is just ridiculous!

MR. BUQUET: Thank you very much, Your Majesty. I would like to say, as President of the Louisiana Oyster Dealers and Growers Association, as a member of the board of Louisiana Festival Association, and as a member of the board of American Shrimp Cannery Association, our sincere



congratulations, because I believe we are going to have the best King we have ever had in Washington representing our industries. Congratulations to you!

(Applause)

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Buquet, and we would like to have the best oysters in the world at the ball this year, too! We did have some last year. Thank you very kindly.

Does anyone else wish to be heard this morning?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Mr. Chairman, before we adjourn we need to formally adopt the budget as we are going to be providing it to the Division of Administration. With us today are the people who have been working very, very diligently after working hours to prepare the budget, Mr. George Heintzen, Mr. Larry Cook and Mrs. Mary Mitchell. All three of them are here today to answer any particular questions and to give you a very, very brief or in detail whatever information you may want concerning our budget request and our capital outlay program.

George, would you come up to the podium,



and Larry and Mary, and do your thing.

MR. GEORGE HEINTZEN: Gentlemen, the following is a brief summary of the funds available to finance our '76-'77 operating and capital budget.

Available funds from all sources total \$33,918,392. Our operating budget request as presented to the Board totals \$20,476,798. Our capital budget request totals \$11,261,921, leaving an estimated balance of funds at June 30, 1977, in the amount of \$2,079,673.

The sources of these funds available in the amount of \$33,000,000 is as follows:

We estimate that the Conservation Fund will bring in some \$19,261,541. The Rockefeller Fund will furnish \$3,347,762. The Marsh Island Fund will furnish some \$1,781,903. From federal funds we expect to receive \$3,061,347 and from the general fund some \$6,465,839, for a total of \$33,918,392.

Therefore, we respectfully request that you approve an operating budget of \$20,476,798 and a capital budget of \$11,261,921 at this time.

Detailed copies of these budgets will



be available to all of you within a matter of days.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any discussion?

MR. JONES: If I understand your figures right, you said we are going to get \$6.4 from general funds?

MR. HEINTZEN: Yes, sir.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: We are requesting.

MR. JONES: Which means we are going to come out \$300,000 ahead. They ripped off \$6.1 million from us last year. If they rip another \$6.1 million this year, it means your budget is going to be cut \$12 million.

THE CHAIRMAN: We were promised that back this year.

MR. JONES: We have been promised it the last 15 years!

THE CHAIRMAN: You don't think they would lie, Mr. Jones!

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Jerry, that is the statement I wanted to make, for the benefit of the people in the crowd. This is a request. From this request it goes on to the Division of Administration and to the legislative budget committee and



to the legislature through the appropriations bill. We don't know really if we are going to get all of this money or what part, but this is money that is available to Wild Life and Fisheries for its proper funding and proper operation of all of its programs. How much of it we get, we don't know. We have no control over it. We can just request it from the powers-that-be on Capitol Hill.

MR. JONES: The reason I said that, you know, you hear all the wildlife clubs and the sports writers throughout the state complaining but they wait until the legislature is in session to complain about them taking our money. The answer they always get is that the budget they get does not include spending of all the Conservation Fund money. I want to make it clear that if they want to look at the budget that we think we ought to have, it spends all of the money. In fact, it is calling for an expenditure out of general funds, but by the time that gets to the legislature, mark my words, that is going to be marked out and they are going to mark out a bunch more from the Conservation Fund. That is where we wind up every



year, and no one ever says anything about it until the legislature is in session.

Now is the time they ought to be talking, now until the time the legislature is in session. Otherwise, we are going to get ripped off again.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Larry, come up in front. Larry has had a bad cold for the last six months and is just coming back to work.

MR. LARRY COOK: I am not back to work yet; I am still on sick leave!

As far as us not knowing, this is true. We do not know what is presented to the legislature or what is being passed by the legislation until this is done sometime in July or August. Even what is presented, we do not know what will be presented to the legislature until after it is presented.

MR. JONES: That is why I say that. Now is the time that the wildlife organizations ought to be opening their mouth, because they have a budget that is available to them, that they can have I guess today, and they can see where we are going to spend the money. By the time it gets to



the legislature, it has gone through a number of hands with red ink on it and it doesn't look anything like this, so the budget that the sports writers and the wildlife clubs ought to work with and try to promote is this budget, not the one that is eventually submitted to the legislature by somebody.

MR. COOK: This is true, Mr. Jones, because there is quite a bit of difference between what we submit and finally comes out, although in the past few number of years we have been having some improvement.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Larry, let me say this, and is Mr. A. J. still here?

THE CHAIRMAN: He has left.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: One of the programs, being you oyster people are here today, one of the programs we had in our capital outlay budget which was taken away from us was about a half-million dollar shell planting program for the oyster industry. That is one of the programs that was cut out in the last capital outlay budget request.

What Jerry is saying is very, very true.



Now is the time to get in touch with your legislators, try to get a commitment from them, get a copy of the Wild Life and Fisheries recommendations of the budget request, and try to get commitments that these legislators will back your request. This is the way to get the job done. Otherwise, somebody is going to cut it out and then you come back to us and say, "What about this? What about that?" but then we can't do it unless we have the money and you are the people who can help us get the money. I would like for every one of you who knows your legislator to be right on top of this and ask them to at least try to give us a real good shake on our money so that we can provide the services that you demand of us.

MR. LAPEYRE: Mr. Angelle, I think it would also be good to point out that there is a request for an additional \$600,000 for hyacinth control which is very important to many people, especially in the south, and I think here again we ought to put as much pressure as we can to obtain these additional funds. I think that represents a 60 percent increase over what we spent last year,



is that right?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: That is correct. We are spending this year a little over a million dollars in water hyacinth control. We are asking for that money plus another \$650,000 to buy chemicals to be able to keep the crew busy on a year-round basis to spray water hyacinths. We are also looking into the possibility of biological controls and also maybe aerial spraying without damage to other people's property.

We are concerned about it and we need the money but we need your help in helping us get it. If this budget is approved pretty much as is and we can have it for about two or three years, I think we can give you the best service that is available in this state and in comparison to any other state in the Union.

FROM THE FLOOR: Get the lawyers behind that, let the lawyers do that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Should the lawyers do that? I agree with you!

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: You mean the lawyers take the money away from us, is that what you are



saying?

FROM THE FLOOR: No, see that the lawyers do the right thing.

MR. JONES: I move we approve the budget.

MR. LAPEYRE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Lapeyre. Any objections?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

Any other comments by anybody this morning? Mr. Schafer.

MR. HARRY SCHAFFER: Mr. Chairman, if you remember, at the last meeting you had requested that we hear the new policies for the oyster industry. Since that time I have sent out a letter, saying that it was going to be on the agenda, but that was before the meeting date was changed. After we got a change in the meeting date and our machine broke down and we got a resolution from the Oyster Association requesting that we delay the hearing on that policy change until some future date, we sent out letters to that effect. We sent out 1,200 letters, stating that it would not be on



this agenda at this time and it will be at a later date and we will notify them again by letter when it will appear on the agenda.

It looks like it will be postponed at least sixty days. I think most of the oyster fishermen would like to see it done at a time when the season is closed so that they can get here and they won't be too busy to attend this thing, because it is a pretty important thing for them.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Schafer.

MR. SCHAFFER: I think that is why we have a lot of people in the audience. Apparently some of them didn't get their notice that this thing would not be heard at this time.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, we are certainly glad to have this group here from the oyster industry.

MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, we might want to give some consideration to have the meeting in Houma, where the oyster people are.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: I would like to recognize a young lady with the press corps. Bob Denny, our information officer, will present the young lady, for the benefit of the Commission and you



people.

MR. BOB DENNIE: I would like to introduce Miss Millie Barr with the Times-Picayune, who is covering the meeting today. Miss Barr.

MISS MILLIE BARR: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Glad to have you with us, Millie.

MR. JONES: I move we adjourn.

THE CHAIRMAN: We have a motion to adjourn. So ordered.

. . . Whereupon, at 10:40
o'clock p.m., Friday,
December 19, 1975, the
meeting was adjourned. . . .

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,
Reporter.

